

REMARKS

With this Amendment, claims 13-15 are added. Therefore, claims 1, 3-8, and 11-15 are all the claims currently pending in this Application.

Claim Objection and Claim Amendments

Claim 1 is objected to due to informalities. With this Amendment, Applicant amends claim 1 to correct this informality. Applicants respectfully requests that the objection to claim 1 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 8 are amended and claims 13-15 are added in order more fully to cover various aspects of Applicant's invention as disclosed in the specification. All amendments and new claims are fully supported in the originally-filed specification. (*see inter alia* Figure 8B and the discussion thereof)

Entry of these amendments and new claims is respectfully requested.

Prior Art

Claims 1, 3, 5-9, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Arquilevich (U.S. 2002/0060709) in view of Endo (U.S. 2002/0085057). Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Arquilevich in view of Endo and Yuji (JP 05-330088). Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Arquilevich in view of Endo and Bruch (U.S. 2002/0151767). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Applicants submits that none of the cited references, alone or in combination, teach or suggest at least:

wherein said position deviation is measured based on two intervals in said sub-scanning direction between two pairs of loci drawn by at least two nozzles of each of a first nozzle array and a second nozzle array which are not adjacent to each other in said main scanning direction among said plurality of nozzle arrays in said measurement step so as to detect an inclination of said recording head;

as recited in claim 1, or:

a correcting unit for correcting a recording position of an ink dot to be recorded on said material for each of said plurality of nozzles based on two intervals in a sub-scanning direction, caused by a tilt of the recording head, between two pairs of loci drawn by at least two nozzles of each of the first nozzle array and the second nozzle array which are not adjacent to each other in the main scanning direction

as recited in claim 8.

There is no teaching or suggestion in any of the cited references of the use of at least two intervals, as recited in claims 1 and 8.

Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 1 and 8 are patentable over the cited references and that claims 3-7, 11, and 12 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies. Applicant respectfully requests that the prior art rejections of the claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Application No.: 10/796,167

Q79698

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 27, 2008